



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 003510-107

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP: AF
)	
Ippei NAKAMURA et al.)	Group Art Unit: 1752
)	
Application No.: 09/928,447)	Examiner: John S. Y. Chu
)	
Filed: August 14, 2001)	Confirmation No.: 8126
)	
For: NEGATIVE IMAGE-RECORDING)	
MATERIAL)	

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**SUBMISSION OF VERIFIED TRANSLATION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT AND
REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed September 12, 2003, applicants hereby provide a verified English translation of Japanese priority application no. 2000-273429 filed on September 8, 2000.

In the Official Action, the Examiner raised a single rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) based on Nakamura et al., United States Patent No. 6,602,648 (the reference to "Kawamura et al" in the Action appears to be an inadvertent error). Without conceding the relevance of the '648 patent, it is noted that the document has a U.S. filing date of February 26, 2001. The present application has a U.S. filing date of August 14, 2001, and claims the benefit of aforementioned Japanese priority application no. 2000-273429 filed on September 8, 2000. As may be seen from the enclosed verified translation of this document, claim 1 is substantively identical with original claim 1 of the present

application. Furthermore, the priority document provides appropriate support for the claims now of record with the radical-polymerizing compound now recited in amended claim 1 being described in the passage beginning on page 28. The IR absorber is described in the passage beginning on page 11 with the cyanine dye of claim 3 being illustrated on page 13. The radical generators having an onium structure are described in the passage beginning on page 18 with the onium salt of formula (III) of claim 8 being illustrated on page 20. Thus, applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the present application are entitled to the benefit of the filing date of the priority document and such date of September 8, 2000, removes the '648 patent as "prior art" against the claims of the present application.¹

Since all matters are believed to be resolved by the instant response, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the present application. As a final matter, while applicants appreciate the acknowledgment of the documents provided with the Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 4, 2003, applicants submitted a corrected PTO-1449 citation form via facsimile on September 17, 2003; which simply corrected the number of one of the cited documents (United States Patent No. 4,800,149). A further copy of the corrected form is being provided herewith. If the Examiner prefers, he can

¹ Applicants also note that the '648 patent and the present application have been identified in an Information Disclosure Statement that has been filed in application Serial No. 09/899,123 filed on July 6, 2001, and published as U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002-0045128. The application is currently pending before Examiner Barbara Gilliam.

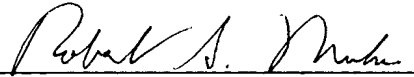
correct the previously acknowledged citation form and provide the revised form with the next Official Action.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the present application, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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